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Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 IO-13 AGRE-00 SSO-00 SP-02
EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OMB-01 DHA-02 TRSE-00
INRE-00 /045 W
----------162151Z 026814 /63
O 162100Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4312

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 2270

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAGR, PFOR, OCON, ES
SUBJECT: SEVENTH INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON AGRICULTURE

REFS: (A) STATE 107786 (B) SAN SALVADOR 1968

1. TO DATE, GOES HAS RECEIVED NO REPEAT NO OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION OF HIGH-LEVEL ATTENDANCE AT SUBJECT MEETING. MINAG OFFICIALS DO NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY OF CANCELLATION. EMBASSY BELIEVES THERE IS GOOD CHANCE MEETING OF AGRICULTURE MINISTERS WILL GO WAY OF IDB, ALTHOUGH GOES WILL NOT HAVE EXCUSE OF LAMK OF FACILITIES THIS TIME.
2. CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING US PARTICIPATION IN SUBJECT MEETING ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE INVOLVING NOW-CANCELLED IDB MEETING, EXCEPT THAT LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS ARE LESS IMPORTANT (SEE REFTEL B). INTERNAL SITUATION IN EL SALVADOR IN WAKE OF SLAYING OF FOREIGN MINISTER BORGONOVO IS EXTREMELY TENSE AND HOLDS POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS DETERIORATION OF PUBLIC ORDER. POSSIBILITIES INCLUDE IMPOSITIONOF MARTIAL LAW WA H CURFEW, INCREASED VIOLENCE BY EXTREMIST GROUPS OF LEFT AND RIFHT AND ATTEMPTED (OR SUCCESSFUL) COUP D'ETAT BY ONE OR ANOTHER ELEMENT OF MILITARY. WHILE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE PREDICT EXACT COURSE OF EVENTS, IT IS QUITE LIKELY THAT THIS SITUATION WILL PERSIST AT LEAST THROUGH NEXT SIX
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WEEKS, WHEN NEW PRESIDENT IS DUE TO BE INAUGURATED. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT US DELEGATION TO SUBJECT MEETING WOULD BE TARGETTTED BY EXTREMIST GROUPS BUT, GIVEN LIKE-LIHOOD THAT GOES WOULD LAY ON HEAVY SECURITY FOR MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING, POSSIBILITY OF INCIDENTS INVOLVING PAVY-HANDED SECURITY FORCES AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS TO ASSURE SECURITY WOULD BE HIGH.

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3. FURTHER CONSIDERATION IN VISIT OF ANY HIGH-LEVEL USG
OFFICIAL EL SALVADOR IS CURRENT STATE OF OUR RELATIONS
WITH GOES. MEETING OF THIS CHARACTER, WHILE CLEARLY REGIONAL,
WILL BE USED AS PODIUM TO EXTOL GOES ACCOMPLISHMENTS.
IN VIEW OF LACK OF SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF
RICHARDSON CASE AND CONTINUED SERIOUS HUMUS RIGHTS
VIOLATIONS IN EL SALVADOR, ANY US DELEGATIONAUST BE
CONDUCTED IN SUCH A WAY AS NOT TO SUGGEST THAT USG IS
CHANGING COURSE.
4. BEST OF ALL POSSIBLE WORLDS WOULD BE TO HOLD MEETING
AT ANOTHER SITE,NYF GOES COULD BE CONVINCED. WE ASSUME
THAT, AS IN IDB CA NW USG DOES NOT WISH TO GET OUT IN
FRONT BY PROPOSING THIS SOLUTION. WE ALSO ASSUME THAT,
BECAUSE OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF MEETING, THAT USG
MUST BE REPRESENTED AT POLICY LEVEL. TAKING
ABOVE
CONSIDERATIONS INTO ACCOUNT AND ASSUMING NO INITIATIVE
FROM ANYWHERE TO CHANGE SITE OR QRSTPONE, EMBASSY
RECOMMENDS:
A. THAT USG NOT BE REPRESENTED BY CABINET-LEVEL OFFICIAL;
B. THAT DELEGATION BE HELD TO ABSOLUTE MINIMUM; AND,
C. THAT DELEGATION BE THOROUGHLY BRIEFED PRIOR TO
DEPARTURE ON STATUS OF BILATERAL RELATIONS AND EMBASSY BE CONSULTED
RE DELEGATION CONTACTS WITH GOESBA INCLUDING PARTICIPATION
IN SOCIAL EVENTS CONNECTED WITH MEETING.
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Message Attributes

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Concepts: AGRICULTURAL POLICIES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Format: TEL
From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770552/aaaabtfh.tel
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Litigation Codes:
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